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FM USMISSION USNATO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0912
INFO RUEHDO/AMEMBASSY DOHA IMMEDIATE 0106
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 0197
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE 0460
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 0295
RHIPAAA/USCINCCENT FWD IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/USNMR SHAPE BE IMMEDIATE
RUEHNO/USDELMC BRUSSELS BE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 000342

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/30/2017

TAGS: [NATO PREL MARR QA](#)

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE GUIDANCE ON WITHDRAWAL OF
NATO PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO COMBINED AIR OPERATIONS CENTER
IN QATAR

REF: A. STATE 49737

[1](#)B. USNATO-EUR/RPM E-MAILS 05/28-05/29-05/30

Classified By: Ambassador Victoria Nuland for reasons 1.4 (b/d)

[1](#)1. (U) Please see request for guidance by OOB Friday in para
[1](#)3.

[1](#)2. (C) NATO D/ASG Bob Simmons concluded two days of talks
with Qatari BG Abdullah Juman Al-Hamad May 30 on the status
of NATO personnel assigned to the Combined Air Operations
Center (CAOC) at Qatar's Al-Udeid Airbase. Key issues remain
unresolved. Abdullah indicated that he would report back to
Simmons shortly on a possible extension, but for now Qatar's
June 4 deadline for the withdrawing the NATO personnel
remains in place. NATO's International Military Staff are
prepared to withdraw the personnel from the ISAF Detachment
Center CAOC (IDCC) within roughly 48 hours of a decision to
pull out.

[1](#)3. (C) REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE: Unless instructed otherwise by
opening of business Friday, June 1, USNATO will be prepared
to join consensus to withdraw NATO personnel from the CAOC if
Qatar has not extended the June 4 deadline. In doing so, we
would encourage NATO to withdraw in as amicable a manner as
possible so as to maintain normal NATO-Qatar relations on
non-IDCC issues. NATO CAOC functions would transfer to HQ
ISAF in Afghanistan. Alternatively, we would join consensus
to accept a Qatari extension of the negotiating deadline,
should Doha offer it.

NULAND